Governments for increasing State outlays on higher education, strengthening of science based research in Universities, frequent updating of curricula, introduction of semester system, Faculty Improvement Programmes and other reforms are also proposed for being taken up during the XI Plan for improving the quality and relevance of higher education.

Central University status to Sagar and Rewa Universities

†1357. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received proposals for granting Central University status to Sagar and Rewa Universities;

(b) if so, by when these two universities would be granted the Central University status;

(c) the present position in this regard; and

(d) which universities in the country have been granted Central University status during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) The proposal for grant of Central University status to Dr. Hari Singh Gaur University, Sagar (MP) is under active consideration. This Ministry has not yet received any proposal for grant of Central University status to Rewa University. Subject to finalisation of XIth Five year Plan, it is proposed to establish one Central University in each of the 16 States, including Madhya Pradesh, which do not have any Central University at present.

(d) During the last three years State universities that have been granted Central University status include Allahabad University, Allahabad, Manipur University Imphal, Tripura University, Agartala, and Rajiv Gandhi University, Arunachal Pradesh.

Opening of Central Universities in States

†1358. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to open a Central University in every State during the Eleventh Five Year Plan: and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the details of the States where there are no Central Universities, till now?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Subject to the finalization of the 11th Five Year Plan, it is proposed to provide one Central University in each of the 16 States which do not have a Central University so far, namely Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Uttarakhand, during the 11th Plan period.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi